

What we claim is:

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1. A powder coating composition comprising:  
at least one powdered polymer; and  
a metal oxide having a mean particle size of less than about 25 microns.

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2. The powder coating composition of claim 1 wherein the metal oxide has a mean particle size of less than about 15 microns.

3. The powder coating composition of claim 1 wherein the metal oxide is selected from the group including silica, alumina, ceria, germania, titania, zirconia, zinc oxide, and mixtures thereof.

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4. The powder coating composition of claim 3 wherein the metal oxide is fumed silica.

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5. The powder coating composition of claim 1 wherein the metal oxide is present in the composition in an amount ranging from about 0.05 to about 3 wt%.

6. The powder coating composition of claim 1 wherein the metal oxide is present in the composition in an amount ranging from about 0.1 to about 0.5 wt%.

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7. The powdered coating composition of claim 1 wherein the metal oxide includes at least one modifying agent.

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~~14. A powder coating composition~~

at least one powdered polymer; and  
the non-deammoniated reaction product of at least one metal oxide and  
hexamethyldisilazane.

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BET surface area of between about 50 m<sup>2</sup>/g and about 400 m<sup>2</sup>/g.

          16.    The powder coating composition of claim 14, wherein the metal oxide has a  
mean particle size between about 0.05 μm to about 200 μm.

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          17.    The powder coating composition of claim 14 wherein the metal oxide is  
selected from the group including alumina, ceria, germania, silica, titania, zirconia, zinc oxide  
and mixtures thereof.

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          18.    The powder coating composition of claim 17 wherein the metal oxide is silica.

          19.    The powder coating composition of claim 18 wherein the silica is fumed silica.

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          20.    The powder coating composition of claim 14 wherein the metal oxide is  
reacted with from about 0.5 to about 40.0 wt% hexamethyldisilazane.

          21.    The powder coating composition of claim 14 wherein the non-deammoniated  
reaction product of at least one metal oxide and hexamethyldisilazane is present in the  
composition in an amount ranging from about 0.1 to about 2.0 wt%.

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22. The powder coating composition of claim 14 wherein the non-deammoniated reaction product of at least one metal oxide and hexamethylsilazane is present in the composition in an amount ranging from about 0.5 to about 1.0 wt%.

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~~23.~~ A powder coating composition comprising:

from about 98 to about 99.9 weight percent of at least one powdered polymer;

and

from about 0.1 to about 2.0 weight percent of a flatting agent that is non-deammoniated reaction product of from about 80.0 to about 99.9 weight percent fumed silica  
and from about 0.1 to about 20.0 weight percent hexamethyldisilazane.

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